

CLAIMS

We claim:

- 5 1. A composition comprising:
 - (a) a high acyl gellan gum;
 - (b) a low acyl gellan gum;
 - (c) a starch; and
 - (d) a plasticizer.
- 10 2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the high acyl gellan gum has more than 40% acetyl and more than 45% glyceryl residual substituents per repeat unit.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the low acyl gellan gum has less than 25% acetyl and less than 15% glyceryl residual substituents per repeat unit.
- 15 4. The composition of claim 1, wherein the high acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.3 to about 5% by weight of the composition on a wet basis.
5. The composition of claim 1, wherein the low acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 4% by weight of the composition on a wet basis.
- 20 6. A composition comprising:
 - (a) a high acyl gellan gum;
 - (b) a low acyl gellan gum;
 - (c) a starch, and a plasticizer,
- 25 wherein the high acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.3 to about 5% and the low acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 4%, by weight of the composition on a wet basis.

7. The composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of high acyl gellan to low acyl gellan is from about 0.25:1.0 to about 30.0:1.0.
8. The composition of claim 6, wherein the ratio of high acyl gellan to low acyl gellan is from about 0.25:1.0 to about 30.0:1.0.
- 5 9. The composition of claim 1, wherein the starch is an amylose containing starch.
- 10 10. The composition of claim 9, wherein the starch is a stabilized starch.
11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the starch is selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylated starch, a hydroxyethylated starch, an acetylated starch, and mixtures thereof.
- 15 12. The composition of claim 8, wherein the starch is selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylated starch, a hydroxyethylated starch, an acetylated starch, and mixtures thereof.
- 20 13. The composition of claim 1, wherein the starch is a dextrinized starch.
14. The composition of claim 1, wherein the starch is present in an amount of from about 15% to about 40%, by weight of the composition on a wet film basis.
- 25 15. The composition of claim 8, wherein the starch is present in an amount of from about 15% to about 40%, by weight of the composition on a wet film basis.
16. The composition of claim 11, wherein the starch is present in an amount of from about 15% to about 40%, by weight of the composition on a wet film basis.
- 30 17. The composition of claim 1, wherein the plasticizer is glycerin and is present in an amount of from about 30 to 80% by weight of the starch.

18. The composition of claim 8, wherein the plasticizer is glycerin and is present in an amount of from about 30 to 80% by weight of the starch.
- 5 19. The composition of claim 11, wherein the plasticizer is glycerin and is present in an amount of from about 30 to 80% by weight of the starch.
20. The composition of claim 1, further comprising hydrophilic or surface hydrophilically modified colloidal particles.
- 10 21. The composition of claim 8, further comprising hydrophilic or surface hydrophilically modified colloidal particles.
22. The composition of claim 11, further comprising hydrophilic or surface hydrophilically modified colloidal particles.
23. A capsule shell comprising a composition comprising:
- 15 (a) a high acyl gellan gum;
- (b) a low acyl gellan gum;
- (c) a starch; and
- (d) a plasticizer.
24. A capsule shell comprising
- 20 (a) a high acyl gellan gum;
- (b) a low acyl gellan gum;
- (c) a starch; and
- (d) a plasticizer,
- 25 wherein the high acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.3 to about 5% by weight of the composition on a wet basis and the low acyl gellan gum is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 4% by weight of the composition on a wet basis and wherein the ratio of high acyl gellan to low acyl gellan is from about 0.25:1.0 to about 30.0:1.0.

25. A capsule shell comprising
- (a) a high acyl gellan gum;
 - (b) a low acyl gellan gum;
 - (c) a starch; and
 - (d) a plasticizer,

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wherein the starch is a stabilized amylose containing starch selected from the group consisting of a hydroxypropylated starch, a hydroxyethylated starch, an acetylated starch, and mixtures thereof.

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